# THE PULSE

*News of the*
*New England Deaconess Hospital Employees*

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## LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Twenty-three members of the Committee on Labor Relations attended the September meeting of the committee which was presided over by Mr. Lowry. The minutes of the last meeting were read and accepted.

Mr. Lowry reported that the eleven holidays per year for the employees of the Engineering Department would be given with vacation time next year, as was done this year.

It was announced that the question of absenteeism among employees will be discussed with the Health Committee of the hospital in the near future.

The cost of Blue Shield and Blue Cross was further discussed. The chairman announced that the survey to learn the desires of employees regarding this coverage is being made. The problem will be discussed at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the hospital and a definite announcement made at the meeting of the Labor Relations Committee next month.

The work of the Admitting Office, Receptionists, Blood Bank, and Cashiers' Office was discussed but no specific problems were brought forth by the various representatives.

Miss Kennedy, Chief Telephone Operator, was enlightening in her discussion of the duties of the operators and the operation of the switchboard. She suggested that employees use the dial system as much as possible instead of asking the operators to dial the numbers and that employees make more use of the interdepartmental telephone directory. A new directory for interdepartmental telephones is coming out in the near future.

Voted to adjourn at three o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

GLADYS R. HARRISON,
*Secretary.*

## PENICILLIN

This is not intended to be a scientific paper on Penicillin — but a few facts about it. It has been said that Penicillin is the most remarkable anti-bacterial agent that has been discovered up to the present. Alexander Fleming, a Scotchman, was the man who first discovered Penicillin — the discovery being accidental. He found that a certain liquid was produced from a mold, which was contaminating his culture plates. This liquid, it was subsequently found, contained what he called Penicillin. He found that the mold producing Penicillin belonged to the Penicillia family of molds. These are molds that make the blue veins in Roquefort cheese and give Camembert cheese its characteristic taste. It was found that minute quantities of this Penicillin could be produced in the laboratory. It took three years to investigate it for the uses to which it might be put and the methods of production so that it might be available, not only to the civilian populace, but also to the war wounded.

Today, in brief, it is prepared in large tanks about the size of freight cars. The process starts with a fleck of mold on a loop of platinum wire. Penicillin notatum is the name. It is placed in a flask which contains food. The mold grows and is then transferred to "seed" tanks, then to large tanks. In the tanks the mold feeds on a mixture of milk sugar, corn-steep liquor, and other substances. Sterile air is pumped into the tanks. After several days in the tanks the mold and liquid or "beer" are separated.

From here the chemist takes over and removes the Penicillin in pure form from the liquid. From the liquid obtained from one of these huge tanks, a handful of Penicillin is extracted. The Penicillin so obtained is sterilized and by a specialized process put up in vials.

Penicillin is employed and indicated in the following conditions:

1. All staphylococcic infections such as pneumonia, osteomyelitis, abscesses, meningitis, and wound infections.

2. All pneumococcic infections of meninges, and all cases of sulfonamic resistant pneumococcic pneumonia.

3. All gonococcic infections complicated by arthritis, endocarditis, peritonitis, ophthalmia, and all cases of sulfonamide-resistant gonorrhea.

4. All hemolytic streptococcic infections with bacteremia and all serious local streptococcic infections, and all anaerobic streptococcic infections.

JOHN KARMAN,
*Registered Pharmacist*

## BOWLING

Monday evening, November third, the members of the Bowling League met again — with an attendance of 34. A good showing! The highest single and highest average was attained by Miss Kay O'Leary of Purchasing — a score of 101 and 95.67 respectively. John Karman of the Pharmacy struggled up to 105 for a high and 92.67 for an average. The following is the result of that evening's scores:

| | |
|---|---|
| Pharmacy | 84.95 |
| Engineering | 80.00 |
| Laundry | 79.92 |
| Deaconess O. R. | 73.89 |
| Chemistry | 72.78 |
| Palmer O. R. | 72.42 |
| Executive | 71.90 |
| Solution Room | 70.11 |

## CANCER INSTITUTE

A Cancer Institute is being held this week — November 16-21. It is sponsored by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Harvard School of Public Health, American Cancer Society (Massachusetts Division, Incorporated), Massachusetts Medical Society (Cancer Committee), Massachusetts Dental Society, and Boston Health League. The program consists of meetings, lectures, demonstrations, and radio broadcasts to further the study of cancer. Among the speakers are Dr. Shields Warren whose subject is "Research Advances Cancer Fight." Dr.

Clifford C. Franseen will speak on "Technique and Care of Electrocoagulation Cases." Mrs. Gertrude S. Jameson is on a panel for Medical Social Workers. An inspection of the Tumor Clinic in Palmer is scheduled.

## ADMINISTRATION

Bertina Terkelsen attended the Institute for Hospital Accountants at Asheville, North Carolina, the week of October twentieth. Kay Galvin and Kay Waters spent last week in New York City. They flew down to have a good time. We hope they will give us a report for the next issue.

## CHEMISTRY

Lucille Lane and Priscilla Myers, who have just completed our Laboratory Training Course, took their Registry Examinations on October 24. Lucille was married on November 6 in the Lafayette Street Methodist Church, Salem, to Stanley Adams Hull, Jr., of Ipswich. Priscilla was one of the bridesmaids. Both girls have resigned from the hospital, for which we are sorry.

Rosemary Sims, who comes to us from the Newburyport Hospital and who has had many years' experience at Columbia University, will be our new night emergency chemist. She replaces Edith Sherman, whom we are sorry to see leave. She has been in charge of Haematology this past year — and is now forsaking New England for the West Coast where she has accepted a position at the Wenatchee Valley Clinic in the State of Washington.

Minnie Barr Smith is giving up her part-time work to devote her full energies to her course at Simmons, where she is studying for her degree. Dorothy Hale, who recently completed her training at the Mercy Hospital, Springfield, will replace her.

Rachel Hayward has joined the students at the Riverway House. She comes for laboratory training from the Solution Room and Blood Bank of the Rhode Island Hospital.

## DIETARY

A new reporter is needed. We lost Miss Bernice Quimby in October to the bookstore of the Zions Herald. It is a great loss to the hospital to have her go, since she was here for eighteen years. A farewell tea was held for her in Harris Hall. Dr. Cook presented her with a watch, which was a gift of the Administration, and a photograph album in green tooled leather from the hospital as a whole. A gift of money was given to her by her friends at the hospital. We all wish success to Miss Quimby in her new position.

We are glad to report that Miss Anderson, Baker Dietitian, and Mr. Clifford Grant, Cook in Deaconess, who have been in the hospital are improving. Bill Gibson attended a National Canary Convention in New York City last week as an exhibitor. He was asked to be a judge since he raises such fine canaries, but declined the offer.

## NURSING

An enjoyable afternoon was spent with Dr. Best on October sixth when he spoke informally to a group of doctors and nurses on his recent trip to Europe. A social hour followed with Miss Shrader as hostess and Mrs. Howard Root and Mrs. Warren Cook pouring. An occasion to speak personally with this well known man who, only 25 years ago, discovered Insulin was a memorable opportunity and a real pleasure.

Miss Shrader and Miss Nelson attended the Conference of Administrators of Schools of Nursing in Washington, D. C. Miss Diggdon has returned from California, where she visited Dr. and Mrs. Paul Doehring and their daughter. Congratulations to the Wades (Dorothy Errington) on the birth of a son in October.

Do you know what's in the wind?
Kent Street's folks are in trouble.
They must make money on the double!
A semi-formal dance is yours to attend,

So save your money and bring your friends.

*Price*: $4.00 a Couple

*Place*: Somerset Hotel — Princess Ball Room

*Date*: December 12, 1947

*Time*: 9:00 P. M. to 2:00 A. M.

The quip of the week concerns the doctor whose small patient swallowed a half dollar. "How is the boy?" asked the doctor. "No change yet," replied the nurse.

## PATHOLOGY

Dr. Shields Warren has accepted a temporary position as Director of the newly-created Division of Biology and Medicine under the Atomic Energy Commission. Congratulations to Rosalie Ryan Greene upon the birth of a son, Charles, Jr. Marcelle Hansotte has recently joined the secretarial forces of the department. We are sorry to say "good-bye" to Dr. Elsie McPeak, who has terminated her research post. Her plans for the future are as yet indefinite, but our best wishes to her wherever she goes. We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. Edward Gauntlett who lost his wife.

## PHARMACY

"Bon voyage" to Rena, our smiling Apothecary Clerk, who will go to Athens, Greece, with her husband for a year. She will be visiting her family, whom she has not seen for a number of years. Rena was given a going-away party by members of the Pharmacy force and was presented with a piece of luggage, as a token for her extended service to the Pharmacy. As we say "good-bye" to Rena, we say "hello" to Helen Capobianco, our new Apothecary Clerk, who has already established herself as a member of the Bowling League.

## RECORD ROOMS

We are happy to report that Miss Studley is making a splendid recovery from her recent operation. Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Rice (Cynthia Wight, formerly of the Deaconess Record Room) have announced the arrival of twin daughters on October twentieth.

## SOCIAL SERVICE

A Coke Party was given for Miss Ruth Sherman on the fifth in celebration of her birthday. Gladys Harrison is proudly displaying that "auntie smile" again. Her second nephew, Richard Alan Mersereau, arrived on October twenty-second. Could it be that Mary Kelly was the bride instead of the maid of honor at that November first wedding? The dither she was in makes us ask questions.

As of November first a General Tumor Clinic is to be held on the first and third Mondays of each month in addition to the usual general clinics held every Thursday afternoon in the Outpatient Department.


## EDITORIAL STAFF

Ellen Adams, Mary E. Parkins } *Editors*

Marion Lynch, Charles Schraub } *Associates*

*Administration* ..... Catherine Galvin
*Admitting* ..... Marion Haskell
*Blood Bank* ..... Ruth Newton
*Chemical Lab.* ..... Constance Sellman
*Dietary* ..... Bernice Quimby
*Engineering* ..... Herbert Robinson
*Hostesses* ..... Esther Prince
*Housekeeping* ..... Hazel Gormley
*Laundry* ..... Rita Dennehy
*Nursing* ..... Dorothy Ogrean
*Pathological Lab.* ..... Kathryn Haley
*Pharmacy* ..... John Keefe
*Purchasing* ..... John Karman
*Record Rooms* ..... Katharine Shirley
*Social Service* ..... Mary Kelly
*Solution Room* ..... Dorothy Blanchard
*Volunteer Service* ..... Pamela Whitney
*X-ray* ..... Eleanore Jacobs